is necessary for managing a Municipality, and it must be presumed that the people of the locality are willing to pay it. The leaders must educate the rate-payers in municipal ways. If any of our Municipalities are not fit to continue as such, I have no objection to abolish them.

Member.—With regard to the shifting of the Magistrate's Court we have submitted a memorial.

Dewan.—Nothing has been settled.

In regard to the pier, an estimate has been received and the cost is found to be prohibitive. It is more than 2 lakhs of rupees. What we have to see is whether the trade statistics will justify such a large expenditure. We shall consider how your shipping facilities could be improved at a cheap cost. In Trivandrum materials have been received for extending the pier. But the trade in Trivandrum has not expanded. The question whether the materials obtained for the Trivandrum pier could be utilised at Colachel is engaging the attention of Government.

As regards the factories, the District Magistrates are Inspectors of Factories under the Factories Regulation, and it is their duty to inspect the factories and see whether any children are overworked or underpaid and, if so, to bring such cases to the notice of Government.

96. Some needs of the town of Kuzhittura.

Mr. P. C. Raman Pillai (Member, Municipal Council, Kuzhittura) complained that Government were compelling Municipalities to increase their taxes, and that the Kuzhittura Municipal Council was sorry in that it had been called upon to explain the non-imposition of professional tax. The fact was that the Council at first resolved to levy it, but in view of strong opposition, it was postponed merely as a temporary measure of conciliation. He next requested that a Government hospital might be opened at Kuzhittura. It was an old request of the people of the taluk; it specially deserved to be granted, if the principle of talukwar expenditure of Government funds was to be acted upon. The Member then begged that either the toll-gate be removed from its present site, or that at least a portion of its collections be allowed to be credited to the funds of the Municipality.

Dewan's reply.—You say that the Government compel you to raise municipal taxes. Government only put certain aspects of the question of taxation for your consideration. There is no compulsion of any kind whatsoever. It is perfectly open to you to say whether you are going to raise a tax or not; but if you want any contribution from Government, you should convince them that you have done your best, and that yet you have not been able to obtain the required funds.

In regard to your prayer for a hospital, I said last year that there was a Mission hospital at Martandam as also a Government dispensary at Parassala and that, in the circumstances, it was not feasible to open a separate Government dispensary at Kuzhittura. We are asking the Mission hospital to enhance its utility, and this is being done by the Mission authorities, who have entered into an agreement with the Government for the purpose. If they fail to abide by the conditions of this agreement, it will be time for you to bring up the matter again.

In regard to the toll, I quite sympathise with you. The gate is in the centre of the town and it is a nuisance. The Chief Engineer says that the present site is the best one. I do not see how. I shall have it re-examined at a conference of the Peishkar and the Chief Engineer.

97. Neyattinkara Municipality and its needs.

Mr. P. Velayudhan Pillai (Member, Municipal Council, Neyattinkara) said that year after year the extension of the limits of the Neyattinkara Municipality was being urged on the attention of the Government and that, in spite of this, their request had not been granted, even though the Council had passed resolutions on the subject and

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had submitted them for the consideration of Government. Though the present area was 10 square miles, it included localities not fit to be brought under municipal administration. What ought to be done was to exclude such villages as Amaravila, Vlangamuri, etc., and extend the limits of the Municipality towards the west as far as the 9th mile of the Southern Main road. Municipal interests would be better served by the proposed extension westwards on account of the fact that there were two markets near the 9th mile stone which would yield an annual revenue of Rs. 4,000. Even the flourishing village of Balaramapuram on the 8th mile might be made a ward of the Neyattinkara Municipality on account of its congested population and the consequent necessity to maintain it in a sanitary condition. The large volume of trade at Balaramapuram attracted a large crowd of persons and the existing state of the village was a menace to public health. There was every likelihood of epidemic diseases breaking out and spreading to the neighbourhood. It was, therefore, highly necessary to include Balaramapuram within the Municipal limits of Neyattinkara both for fiscal and other reasons. The Member earnestly hoped that the proposal of the Council in this respect would meet with the approval of Government.

The Member then put in a strong and earnest plea for an enhancement of the Government grant to the Municipality. Though the request of the Municipality was to increase the grant from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,500, the Government reduced the amount to Rs. 200. He prayed that at least the original grant of Rs. 500 be restored. In conclusion, he requested that the bathing ghats in the Neyattinkara river near the palace, which were in a miserable condition, might be repaired and put in order, as the Municipality was too poor to undertake it.

Dewan's reply.—The reason why you wish the extension of the limits of your Municipality is to secure the income from two adjoining markets as well as from the suburban town of Balaramapuram. There are some who oppose that proposal. The matter is still under correspondence and the Land Revenue Commissioner has been asked to go into the question and submit his views.

In regard to the raising of the grant, I shall consider it when we frame the budget for the next year.

As regards bathing ghats, you want the Government to spend money on a work which primarily devolves on the Municipality. If the limits of the town are extended and your income improves, you may consider the question of constructing these ghats out of your income. I must, however, say that Government cannot undertake such works.

98. Municipal Regulation and the needs of the Attingal Municipality.

Mr. S. Nilakanda Aiyar (Member, Municipal Council, Attingal) thanked the Government on behalf of the Attingal Municipality for placing the Municipal Regulation, I of 1095, on the statute book of the State. The several details of municipal administration had been so comprehensively dealt with that the authors deserved to be complimented on the insight and thoroughness with which they engrafted the British Indian Act on Travancore whose conditions and features—geographical, social and domestic—were so different from those in British India. He also took that opportunity to convey to the Government the grateful acknowledgments of his Municipal Council for giving them the privilege of the election of a non-official President and a non-official majority of councillors.

Coming to local needs, the Member said that, though the municipal area covered 16 square miles, the actual portion which came under the purview of municipal work was very small and even that work related only to sweeping and lighting. Their revenue during 1096 was Rs. 3,674, while their expenditure came to Rs. 3,809 and odd. They were, therefore, not in a position to confer much benefit on the residents of the Municipality. With the imposition of the new taxes and tolls, the Council might be able to scrape about Rs. 1,500 more every year. At the same time the present Regulation made it obligatory on them to provide for a large

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